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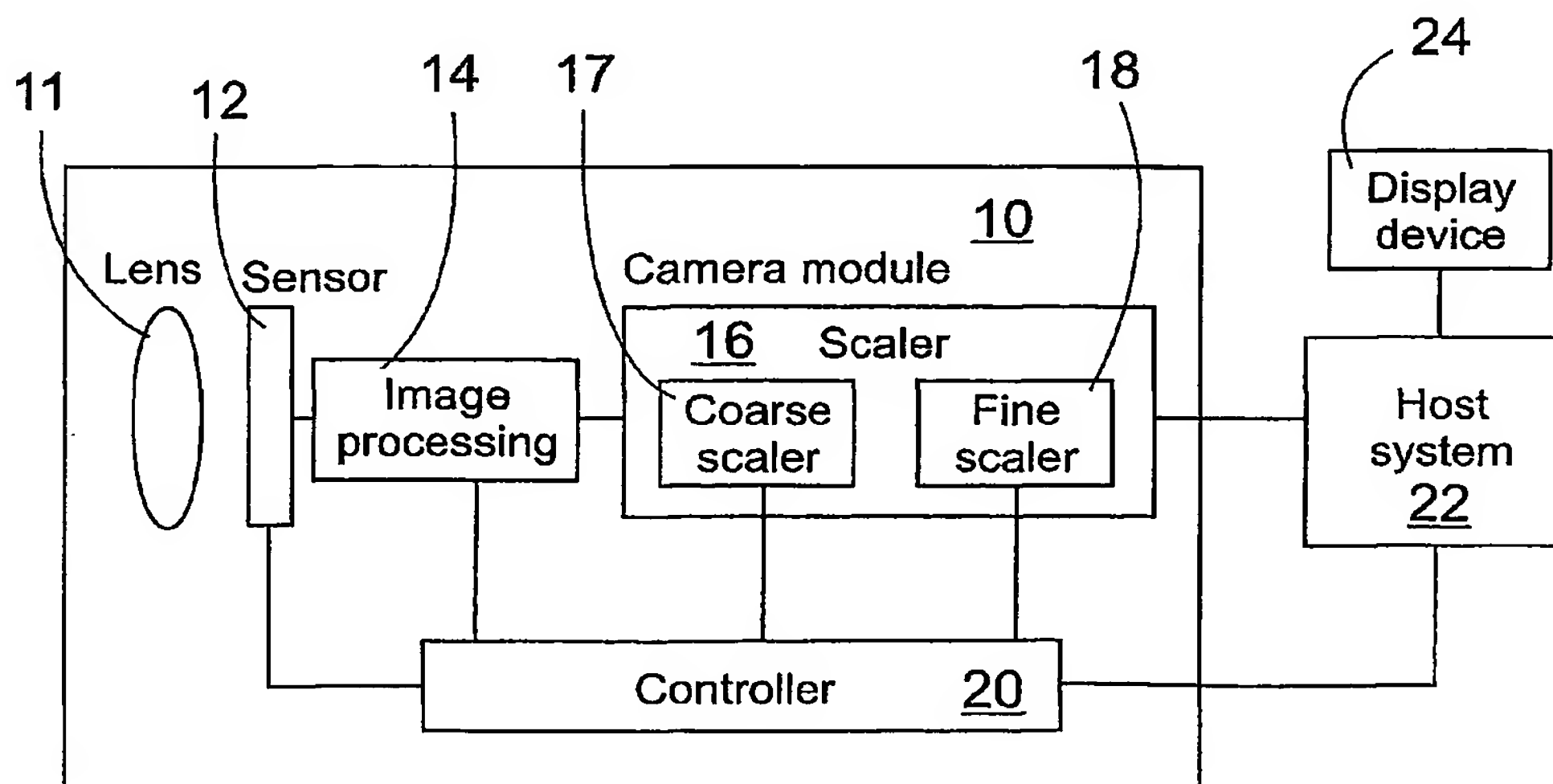
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(54) Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DOWNSCALING A DIGITAL MATRIX IMAGE**



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method and apparatus for downscaling a digital matrix image, using a selected ratio R , in which the matrix image includes a large number of lines, each line including a large number of pixels, so that the intensity values of the pixels form the matrix, and in which the output matrix pixels formed by scaling correspond to sub-groups of the original matrix, from the intensity values of the pixels of which an average is calculated for each pixel of the output matrix. In the solution, three integers X , Y , and Z are selected in such a way that - the scaling ratio R corresponds approximately to the equation $Y/(Z \cdot X)$, in which $Y < Z$, and scaling is performed in two stages, of which in the first stage, the matrix is scaled using the ratio $1/X$, thus creating the pixels of an intermediate matrix and, in the second stage, the each pixel of the intermediate matrix is scaled using the ratio Y/Z .



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